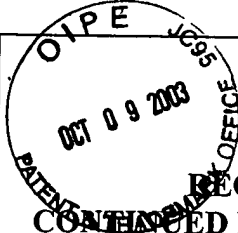


RCE 1600'S

 <p align="center">REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</p> <p>Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)</p>	Application Number:	097079,874
	Filing Date:	5/15/98
	First Named Inventor:	Billing-Medel et al.
	Group Art Unit:	1642
	Examiner Name:	Christopher Yaen
Attorney Docket No.	ABB1207P0880US	

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 27 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. Changes to the Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (April 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

- a. ☐ Previously submitted:
- i. ☐ Consider the Amendment(s)/Reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on _____
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other: _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed:
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement
- iv. ☐ Other: _____

3. **Fees** The filing fee has been calculated as shown below:

Small Entity						Large Entity	
For	No. Filed	No. Allowed	No. Extra	Rate	Fee	Rate	Fee
Basic Fee					\$385.00	OR	\$770.00
Total Claims	26	- 20 =	6	x \$9.00	\$	OR	x \$18.00 \$108.00
Indep. Claims	7	- 3 =	4	x \$42.00	\$	OR	x \$84.00 \$336.00
Multiple Dependent Claims Present				+ \$140.00	\$	OR	+ \$280.00 \$
TOTAL					\$	OR	TOTAL \$1214.00

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02 FC:1801 770.00 OP
03 FC:1202 108.00 OP
04 FC:1201 8.00 DA 336.00 OP

18. ☒ A check in the amount of \$1214.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 23-0785.
- i. ☐ RCE filing fee
- ☐ Extension of time fee
- ☐ Other _____

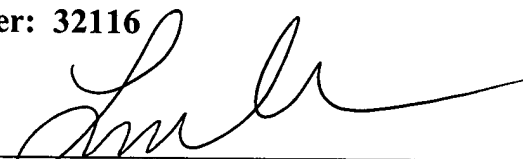
4. **Correspondence Address:**

WOOD, PHILLIPS, KATZ, CLARK & MORTIMER
Citicorp Center, Suite 3800
500 West Madison Street
Chicago, Illinois 60661-2511
Telephone: (312) 876-1800
Facsimile: (312) 876-2020

Customer Number: 32116

Date: October 6, 2003

Attorney's Signature


Lisa V. Mueller, Reg. No. 38,978

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this Request For Continued Examination Transmittal and any other documents referred to as enclosed herein, are being deposited in an envelope with the United States Postal Service "First Class Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated below and addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit: October 6, 2003

Typed/Printed Name of Person Signing: Barbara Towns

Signature:

